

Meeting with Secretary Azar

- Secretary Azar, Director Scott Lloyd, Steve Wagner
- Scott:
 - Thank you for assistance in the parental separations
 - Thank you for getting DNA tests in expeditious manner
- Secretary Azar:
 - Thank grantees for excellent work with the children
 - Working hard to ensure that the public knows that the kids receive the best care
 - Current challenges with nationwide visibility:
 - May 6th – zero tolerance initiative that increased UCs coming to our program
 - Class action law suit that orders that all 0-4 (July 10th) to be reunified July 26th (older children)
 - Emergency management team has deployed to ICE detention facilities to reunite families, all resources available to comply with court order
 - Among parents: 2 reported parents had violent charges that may not allow them to be reunified with parents
 - Reiterate:
 - We are complying with court order. We must do everything to identify parents, contact them, and make strides to reunify them or go to another sponsor if the parents want
 - DNA testing all parents
 - Fingerprinting from CBP and ICE for background checks.
 - Suitability assessments will be conducted for parents concerns then elevate to FFS
 - Noon on Tuesday 0-4 UCs must be reunited. If it can't happen by that time then elevate immediately
 - After Tuesday, we focus on the rest of the kids that is currently underway
 - If you need anything, have questions, then elevate to FFS
 - Questions:
 - Can you confirm that detained parents must provide a full FRP packet?
 - Yes, that is a requirement.
 - Separated sibling groups:
 - They should go together even if they are in different age class groups
 - Date of start of zero tolerance policy and which children it affects:
 - It applies to all separated children in care.
 - Are families being forced to leave and not having to request asylum in order to be reunited?
 - Our understanding is that opportunities for asylum remain the same
 - Referring to the FRP packets, how should they proceed without DO's assistance?

- ORR has people deployed to those facilities to fill out the forms
- If parents are in detention, will the children join them in detention
 - ORR will operationalize this questions in a few days
- Do all parents need DNA?
 - If you can get a validated BC, then you can use that instead of DNA test
- What should we do if parents want to pursue reunification to another person in the US?
 - Need to document the parent's wishes, then we can pursue sponsorship with someone else
- Will program care staff will be flying to reunify parents to detention centers? Who will be making those arrangements?
 - Parents are being flown to detention centers near the children. When reunification happens, then the children will be driven to the detention centers.
- ORR: we will be providing instruction to facilities 5 and up regarding DNA. We are using the fingerprint results from ICE agents
- What is the next step if the DNA is not a match
 - CM should conduct follow up in order to follow up with the mismatch and please refer to FFS
- Are parents still only allowed to ask for reunification if they are being repatriated
 - No – court order requires to reunite this Tuesday with their 0-4 children.
- How long will reunified families remain in detention?
 - That is a question for ICE. We do not have visibility on it
- Will children be allowed to take their belongings to ICE?
 - Yes, ICE will be able to accommodate that
- Who is the contact for fingerprint results? And what is the coordination for the reunification.
 - ORR has staff that will be receiving fingerprinting results and will be inputting them into the Portal and notifying CMs.
 - Coordination for 0-4 children will be transported to parents and it will be arranged through HHS
- If a parent has criminal charges, and is not separated...
 - Those are not subject to the court order.
- If any additional questions, please elevate them to your FFS.